

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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P 141823Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 900

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG VE

SUBJ: REACTION TO THE SECREGARY'S PITTSBURGH SPEECH

REF: CARACAS 11723

1. MINISTER OF STATE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
MANUEL PEREZ GUERRERO REACTED SHARPLY TO THE SECRETARY'S
SPEECH OF NOV 11 IN PITTSBURGH. PEREZ GUERRERO
SAID THAT THE SECRETARY'S REMARKS WERE NOT CONSISTENT
WITH THE SPIRIT WHICH REIGNED AT THE RECENT PARIS
PREPCON BETWEEN PRODUCING AND CONSUMING COUNTRIS.
PEREZ GUERRERO OBSERVED THAT THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME
THAT KISSINGER HAS SPOKEN IN SUCH TERMS "BUT WE BELIEVED
THAT THE USE OF THIS TYPE OF LANGUAGE COMMUNICATED
THROUGH THE PRESS HAD COME TO AN END. WE HAVE ALWAYS
SOUGHT, ON THE CONTRARY, THROUGH COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA,
MEANS OF UNDERSTANDING WHICH WOULD SERVE AS A BASIS
FOR THE PARIS DIALOGUE."

2. PEREZ GUERRERO WENT ON TO SAY THAT MANY THINGS
COULD HAPPEN BETWEEN NOW AND THE PARIS CONFERENCE, BUT
THE GOV HOPES THAT THE PROPITIOUS ENVIRONMENT CREATED
SINCE THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA, CONFIRMED
AT THE PARIS PREPCON, WOULD NOT BE LOST.

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3. COMMENT: PEREZ GUERRERO HAS SPOKEN ENTHUSIASTICALLY ABOUT A CHANGE IN ATTITUDE BY THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES SINCE THE PARIS PREPCON (SEE REFTEL). HE NOW HAS CONSIDERABLE PERSONAL PRESTIGE INVESTED IN A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE PRODUCER-CONSUMER DIALUGUE.

4. PEREZ GUERRERO'S REMARKS WERE BASED ON PRESS REPORTS. HE REQUESTED THE FULL TEXT OF THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH FROM THE EMBASSY. AFTER READING THE FULL TEXT, A MEMBER OF PEREZ GUERRERO'S STAFF TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER THAT PRESS REPORTS APPEARED TO HAVE TAKEN THE SECRETARY'S REMARKS OUT OF CONTEXT. THE GOV STILL FINDS PORTIONS OF THE SPEECH OBJECTIONABLE, BUT ITS WORST FEARS WERE ALLAYED.

5. OBVIOUSLY, THE GOV'S USE OF THE MEDIA HAS FREQUENTLY FALLEN FAR SHORT OF PRODUCING THE CONSTRUCTIVE EFFECTS PEREZ GUERRERO ALLEGES TO HAVE BEEN THE OBJECTIVE.
END COMMENT.
SHLAUDEMAN

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